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Mediteinskiy Rabotnik, No 33, 1949

REPORT OF VACCIERS

Soviet researchers are blazing new trails in various fields of pridemiology, microbiology, imminiology, and virology. Considerable success has been estained in the search for new effective substances and in the development of new technology for their production. Practical application of living vaccines has clearly shown their advantages over vaccines prepared from killed bacteria. The most promising direction for further improvement in protective inoculation against infectious diseases without doubt lies in the search for new living vaccines prepared from viruses and becoming.

These accomplishments are the result of the close liaison between bacteriological production and microbiological science and public health practice. However, the potentialities of the institutes are still not exhausted by these accomplishments. A number of important problems of protective inoculation against infections and the production of bacterial substances await immediate solution. This applies particularly to further improvement in production technology.

The principal task of institutes, primarily the Central Control Institute, is to establish standards which will reflect upon the practical and not the experimental value of proparations.

In the article, "The Road to a Fin Mothod", "Medi Jinskiy Rabotnik, No 842, the narrow viewpoint and conservatism of the Moscow Institute imeni Mechnikov (director, Yeber) was very clearly pointed out. The administration of this Institute relies upon an outmoded method of producing polyvaccines which proved to be of poor quality. The scientific and practical activities of this Institute must be radically revised immediately to guarantee a rapid transfer to new production technology. Only ten percent of the plan for the scientific work of the Institute in 1949 is devoted to the preparation of antigens and polyvaccines.

During the past years, the Ministry of Public Health USSR has raised the standards of the quality of bacterial preparations considerably. The increased minimum titration standards established for serums and the diptheria antitoxin have been surpassed. However, we can no longer be satisfied with the results attained. The quality of medical preparations must be improved further.

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All antitoxic serums (diphtheria, tetands, gangrene, scarlet fever) must be dispensed only in pure and concentrated form this year. Methods for purifying and making concentrated preparations of other serums for treatment of dysentary and pneumonia await development. Special attention must be directed toward further improvement of the immunogenic properties of pentavaccines and antitoxins and to increase the titration standards for bacteriophages. The production of high-quality preparations is one of the principal tasks of institutes of epidemiology and microbiology.

The preparation of a dry vaccine for tuberculosis that can be stored for a prolonged period and organizing its production are also important. Such a preparation will permit universal vaccination against tuberculosis. Some of the institutes are not coring with this problem. Several of them still have not converted to the production of the dry vaccine (Molotov, Ufa, Omsk, Kirgiz, and others).

Another important problem for the institutes is the expansion of the production of dry searlet fever vaccine. This must be done within the next year or two. Fraction to this execute in dry form will mean a great saving to the state and will improve scarlet fever inoculation throughout the country.

Pediatricians are justified in requesting microbiologists to produce vaccines for scarlet fever and whooping sough. Public health also lacks an effective vaccine for influence. Microbiological science must occupante more closely with production to solve these important problems in the shortest possible time.

Liguifficient training of personnel is one of the principal reasons for below par vaccine production. The majority of the institutes pay very little attention to the training of scientific personnel and the selection of qualified vorkers for the staffs. At present, more than half the laboratory directors have no degrees.

The plans of many institutes are without purpose or direction. The many problems of microbiology, epidemiology, hygiens, etc., are not coordinated in one over-all effort. Until recently the Ministry of Public Health USER paid little attention to the problem of planning. Eswever, the Problem Commission established within the Epidemiological Committee, Scientific Medical Council, Ministry of Public Health USER, in 1949, has studied the plans and reports of the institutes. Now the Commission is confronted with the most responsible and difficult work, that of actively planning future operations on the basis of this study.

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